The Baptist Record

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Missionaries survive tornado; youths aid victims

COLONIAL HEIGHTS, Va. (ABP) — Baptist missionaries Debbie and Kent Blevins narrowly escaped serious injury Aug. 6 when a deadly tornado ripped through a darkened Wal-Mart department store where they were shopping

shopping.

Meanwhile, outside the store, six Baptist youths and their three counselors, who happened to be in the area, offered assistance to those injured by the tornado.

Two cashiers and a shopper were killed and more than 100 people were injured when the twister smashed into the Wal-Mart store in Colonial Heights south of Richmond.

The Blevins were getting in line at the check-out counter when the lights went out.

"It was raining outside like I've never seen it rain before," recounted Kent Blevins, who with his wife was visiting family in the Richmond area. The Blevins are on a five-week furlough

from Switzerland, where they serve as Cooperative Baptist Fellowship missionaries on the staff of Baptist Theological Seminary in Ruschlikon.

"Suddenly some people ran in the front doors in total panic, and Debbie heard someone yell 'tornado!" Kent continued.

"We turned and walked toward the middle of the store, away from the cash registers — I don't know why — and maybe five seconds later the ceiling and walls began to buckle. We didn't have any time to react. We just huddled on the floor."

What happened next is "nearly

impossible to describe," he said.
"There was just this big whooshing sound, and within a few seconds we were looking up at the sky."

The three people who died were in the check-out area where the Blevins had been standing moments earlier.

Although they had been showered with glass and debris, neither of the Blevinses was seriously hurt. After freeing herself, Debbie helped Kent pull his leg from beneath the rubble.

"There was just this big whooshing sound, and within a few seconds we were looking up at the sky."

> — Kent Blevins, tornado survivor

They then tended to the people nearest them, a grandmother with multiple injuries and her 8- or 9-year old granddaughter who was terrified but basically unhurt. Debbie then stayed with them while Kent hobbled over what remained of the front wall.

"It was just a matter of those who weren't seriously injured trying to help those who were," he said.

Outside, the van carrying youths and counselors from First Church of Hillsville, Va. — who were attending the annual Virginia Baptist Youth Evangelism Conference in Richmond — had just

By David Wilkinson & Julie Jenkins turned into the parking lot. After

turned into the parking lot. After narrowing avoiding the tornado, all nine decided to approach the devastated Wal-Mart store to help.

devastated Wal-Mart store to help.
Stephanie Anderson and
Kristie Montgomery, youth group
members, picked glass out of a
woman's hand, while the group's
three counselors and one youth
carried several wounded from the
store entrance. Only Becky
Gunter, youth minister from the
church, actually entered the store,
sustaining a cut to the arm that
required stitches.

Other Hillsville youths provided first aid and comforted two mothers whose babies needed medical attention.

The Blevinses, meanwhile, made their way to their car, and several bystanders helped them sweep the glass of a shattered window out of the seats.

On the way to the hospital to attend to their wounds, they stopped to call and check on their children, who were staying nearby with relatives. All were safe.

In addition to multiple bruises and some cuts for both of them, xrays revealed a broken bone in Kent's knee, so he will be traveling on crutches when the family returns to Ruschlikon later this

They also will be returning to the mission field with renewed gratitude for life.

"It certainly makes you stop and think," Kent said. "I have always had an appreciation for the fact that life is fragile and precious and that you can't take it for granted. But this experience has reaffirmed for us that you have to live each day and appreciate every opportunity that comes — especially the relationships you have with loved ones and others around you."

The group from First Church of Hillsville also came away from the experience with a lesson learned, said Jake Roudebush, a counselor and interim minister of music. "I think this group learned what it's all about to have a servant heart."

Gunter said the group was in town to visit Kings Dominion amusement park in conjunction with the annual Youth Evangelism Conference. Heavy rains changed their plans and they decided to visit several shopping malls and the historic district of Petersburg, Va., while waiting for the storm to end.

But God had other plans, group

members said. Gunter said the circumstances that brought the group to the Wal-Mart at 1:30 p.m. that afternoon included an extremely slow gas pump, some miscalculation in direction, and the torrential rains.

Those delays left the group's van several hundred yards from the Wal-Mart as the tornado hit, she said.

The funnel would have sideswiped their van had not James Tigner, youth group member, directed the driver, "Go right. Greg, turn right." Other vehicles to the left of the van suffered shattered windows as the air pressure dropped drastically, said Gunter.

Wilkinson writes for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship; Jenkins, for the Virginia RELI-GIOUS HERALD.

Four with Mississippi ties granted degrees from New Orleans Seminary

Four with Mississippi ties were granted degrees this summer by New Orleans Seminary. They were: John G Williams Jr. of Galveston, Texas; Michael R. Alexander of Jayess; Charles Ray (Chip) Price of Summit; and Madison Dwayne Kelly of Carthage.

Williams is pastor of First Church, McHenry. He received the bachelor of arts degree.

Alexander received the associate of divinity degree. He is pastor of Providence Church, Jayess. He is married to the former Lisa

Four with Mississippi ties were Lemonis of Greenville, and is the son of Vernon and Sue Alexander

of Jayess.

Price, pastor of Montpelier Church, Montpelier, La., received the master of divinity degree. He is married to the former Erin Singleton of Brookhaven, and is the son of Mignonne Price of Summit

Kelly, pastor of Poplar Flat Church in Louisville, received the master of divinity degree. He is married to the former Lisa Truitt of Lexington, and is the son of Erbie and Betty Kelly of Pearl.

Shortwave broadcasts end

Twenty-eight years of shortwave religious broadcasts to South America from the tiny island of Bonaire off the coast of Venezuela ended June 30 when Trans World Radio signed off the air in the first phase of their transition to a modern satellite ministry.

The radio station, which had been famous throughout the southern hemisphere for its 24-hour, 500,000-watt signal, will move its Christian programming to the satellite and target Latin American mega-cities where three-quarters of the region's population now reside. That urban migration and a population explosion — from 200 million to 460 million people during the radio station's lifespan — caused a decline in shortwave listeners as local urban AM and FM stations gained popularity.

Trans World will continue to operate its powerful AM transmitter from Bonaire, and shortwave service will still be available from facilities in Ecuador.

Japan crusade slated

Speaking in Tokyo July 3, Billy Graham's son encouraged 250 missionaries and international business leaders to become involved in what he called "Japan's spiritual summit." Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan's Purse and World Medical Mission, was referring to Mission 94—the third major evangelistic crusade his father has conducted in Japan.

The crusade, scheduled for Jan. 13-16, 1994, will originate from the new 50,000-seat Tokyo Dome and will be transmitted by satellite to 100 sites in Japan and the rest of Asia.

"With the Pacific Rim experiencing the fastest economic growth in the world, I believe Mission 94 could be one of my father's most strategic crusades, with potentially the largest audience of his nearly 50 years of ministry as it is sent by satellite throught Asia," said the younger Graham.

Looking back...

10 years ago

Greenwood native Walter Shurden was named chair of the Christianity department at Mercer College in Macon, Ga.

20 years ago

Owen Cooper of Yazoo City, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, was honored by pastors for his support of their work.

30 years ago

Ralph Winders, director of student work at MBCB, visited Cairo, Egypt, on his journey home from the World Youth Conference in Beirut, Lebanon.

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK_____

Thursday, August 19, 1993

Staying on track

Harnessed power can be of much benefit. Steam can do great damage but when properly controlled, it drives ships and locomotives. This harnessing always rubs against freedom. A locomotive might think it would be better to be free — it could run through the meadows and go as it pleased. However, when it leaves the track it becomes powerless and useless. The freedom it has is dependent on its staying on the tracks.

A well-known Baptist histori-an, Glenn Hinson, indicates Southern Baptists have jumped the track with little hope for recovery. Hinson places the blame on the fundamentalism which has invaded the SBC, declaring the SBC is "Baptist in name only and not in reality." There is no likelihood of recovering the Baptist tradition for the denomination as a whole, said Hinson. He also stated that the true Baptist tradition is fading, and is now found mainly in churches of the American Baptists.

Hinson was previously professor at Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky., where he managed to raise the ire of trustees and other Baptist leaders. He resigned under pressure and is now professor of spirituality, worship, and church history at the new Baptist Seminary of Richmond.

You hesitate to speak contrary to such an eminent professor. In all due respect, I seriously doubt that Southern Baptists have been supplanted by American Baptists.

There has been a split-level view of Baptists for many years. The upper level is the SBC leadership and how it operates or seeks to speak for all Southern Baptists. The other view is of the local churches, the grass roots level.

Perhaps some scholars become focused only at the upper level and seldom realize that the grass roots level is not like it at all. The upper echelon does not exercise nearly the amount of control over local churches as they may think or desire. We meet, pass resolutions, alter the constitution, and produce a lot of smoke. Our churches, for the most part, continue as if there had been no meeting.

It's difficult to know what Hinson meant by "Baptist tradition." We have traditional ideas of freedom, separation of church and state, doctrines, and behavior. Each of these often varies from Sandy Hook to Charleston; from the eastern seaboard to the fron-

Speaking at the American Baptist Biennial in San Jose, Calif., Hinson mentioned other factors, some social and cultural, others internal. The "blurring effect of the so-called electronic church, the surge of the Religious Political Right, the effort to redefine and realign Baptist tradition with evangelical Christianity, and a "corpo-ration mentality" where the insti-tution must be preserved even if

truth and integrity are sacrificed, were the main points.

There is much strength in Hinson's statement but his conclusion seems a bit biased. Everything in the SBC has not gone to pot, nor is the American Baptist group apt to be the sole repository of Baptist freedom and autonomy

Robert A. Baker, in The Baptist March in History, spoke of Christians who felt like they could modify or replace the pattern in order to meet the demands of a new day. "Others have counted themselves superior to the New Testament authority and have openly altered or eliminated specific teachings. Still others have claimed the New Testament plus tradition of the first five centuries of Christian history constitute the pattern and authority of Christianity. These things Baptists deny."

True believers are far more interested in reproducing the pattem of the New Testament, not in trying to modify it.

Baptists have fought long and hard for local church autonomy, the authority of the Scriptures, repentance and regeneration, separation of church and state, and soul competency. These denominational foundations may be a bit hazy in the upper echelon or even in some denominational offices, but on the grass roots level, the traditions are alive and the members stand ready to "defend the faith once delivered to the saints."

"I'M FORTY-EIGHT YEARS OLD AND SO FAR THE HIGH POINT OF MY LIFE WAS THE WEEKEND THE CHILDREN DIDN'T COME HOME."

THE FRAGMENTS_____

Contemporary music

Christian music and music for Christians may or may not be the same. Some like to hold on to the old and others prefer the contemporary. I suspect every generation has fought this battle. The real question is whether it speaks to the heart. The answer may be geared more to the age of the individual.

For instance, when I was 4 or 5, "Lobe Der Herren" didn't do a lot for me, whereas "ABC" was a spine tingler. At age 10, "Old 134th Genevan Psalter" was not overused at Mt. Zion, but "Heavenly Sunlight" was shining through the windows.

Teenage music defies all des-cription; best I can recall, "Begin the Beguine" in A Flat followed by a polyphonic fugue was in vogue. I turned 20 with the "Yellow Rose of Texas" on my mind, and married her in December. For

a while we sang, "If the world from you withholds of its silver and its gold." After college we moved on to attend seminary where "Ready to suffer, grief or pain, Ready to stand the test" took on a new meaning.

In the years on the mission field, "Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share, but our toil he doth richly repay," was affirmed.

The years continued, the sun did it successive journey run, and soon our song was "When your youthful days are gone and old age is stealing on."

Things went well until last Sat-urday, when I mowed the yard and edged about half of Clinton. Sunday I was singing, "When your body's wracked with pain and your health you can't regain." To me, that is contemporary music.

— GH

dees how they nearly destroyed their marriages. Searing honesty usually sparks tears.

Leaders explain that "love is a decision, not a feeling. Deciding to love frees us from basing our relationship on our feelings only. Love as a decision gives us control over ourselves."

Then attendees go to their own motel rooms with an assignment to write on such issues as: "How do I feel when you seem indifferent to me, or when you avoid a conflict rificing for our marriage?" Afterward, they exchange notebooks, read, and dialogue. It is very intensive, and a weekend only begins the process. They meet every other week with other "graduates."

Retrouvaille gave Mike and his wife a vision of a healed marriage through couples who had made it, the communication tools to work for it, and the heart to do so.

Their son, Jason, 13, wrote them a letter on their anniversary: "Thank you for being mine and Jacob's parents, and all that you do for me.... You stayed together mostly because you did not want to lose us or hurt us, and we respect you for making that decision.... If we listed all the things you do for we would be writing the rest of our lives."

To find a Retrouvaille, call (713) 455-2027.

McManus has written "Ethics

& Religion," a syndicated news-paper column, since 1981.

Ethics and religion

Shaken marriages can be saved

By Michael J. McManus

Fifth of a 7-part series A recent cover story by Barbara Dafoe Whitehead in The Atlantic magazine began with these words: "Dan Quayle was right. After decades of public dispute about socalled family diversity, the evidence from social-science research is coming in: The dissolution of two-parent families, though it may benefit the adults involved, is harmful to children and dramati-

cally undermines our society." The evidence she cites is over-

whelming:
"Children in single-parent families are six times as likely to be poor ...(and) two to three times as likely as children in two-parent ramilies to have emotional and behavioral problems. They are also more likely to drop out of school, to get pregnant as teenagers, to abuse drugs, and to be in trouble with the law

Whitehead's analysis is pungent

and long overdue: "Family disruption is best understood not as a single event but as a string of disruptive events: separation, divorce, life in a single-parent family, life with a parent and live-in lover, the remarriage of one or both parents, life in one stepparent family com-bined with visits to another stepparent family; the breakup of one or both stepparent families

But she errs by saying that divorce "may benefit the adults involved." According to the land-mark book, Second Chances, by Judith Wallerstein, one partner feels "unhappy much of the time, often suffers from loneliness, anxiety, or depression, and may be pre-The other person may feel better initially, and find a new mate.

However, six out of 10 second marriages fail.

What is totally unexplored in The Atlantic's article is the fact that even deeply troubled marriages can be restored to health.

In Fort Worth, half of 600 couples who attended a weekend retreat called "Retrouvaille" (French for rediscovery) were already separated or divorced, yet four-fifths saved their marriages! In Buffalo, 93% were successful. What is Retrouvaille?

"If your marriage has become unloving or uncaring or ...cold and distant, if there is ...no meaningful communication, or if you feel despair - then we believe Retrouvaille can help," says the volunteer group's pamphlet. "If you are thinking of divorce or you are already separated but want to try

Attendees must agree in advance that they want to make their marriages work. And if a third party is involved, that rela-tionship must be ended.

Several lead couples tell atten-

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Robertson wants state project to serve as national model

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (EP) - Religious broadcaster Pat Robertson is hopeful a five-year education campaign in Mississip-pi that has taught more than 70,000 adults how to read will serve as a national model.

'We have fulfilled our

promise to the people of Missis-sippi," said Robertson, founder of the Christian Broadcasting Network. "We started five years ago determined to improve the state's literacy rate, and that's exactly what has happened."

Since the Heads Up Literacy

Campaign began in Mississippi in 1988, nearly 4,500 volunteer tutors have helped 72,589 adults learn how to read in free classes through a phonics-based pro-

"Before I started in these classes, I felt powerless," said

Sherrie Wright of Polkville, who dropped out of school in the fifth grade. "I was only in a little isolated corner in this world, and I thought that's the way everybody lived. But there is a way out. There's help available from people. I'm like a different person and I never thought I could feel so confident."

By teaching people to learn how to read, you improve not only the quality of their lives, but the lives of all Mississippians," said Robertson, whose organization provided materials, services, and technical support for the project. "Education is the key. And reading provides the spark to turn lives around."

Robertson believes the Mississippi effort will serve as a national example of how the private sector can help financiallystrapped state governments. "There's a tremendous need for education in this country," said Robertson. "But with fewer government dollars available for this kind of project, we must look for other avenues of support. One way to do that is through the business and civic communities. They can create public awareness and interest, as well as help provide the financial support for this kind of project. When used effectively, it can be a powerful combination."

During the Mississippi project, corporate sponsors provided valuable assistance in helping people overcome the embarrassment of illiteracy by getting them to come forward to register for the free reading classes. For example, a grocery store chain printed educational information about the literacy campaign on grocery bags. The power company bought airtime on television and radio stations to help get the word out. Other firms donated space in their facilities for regis-

CBN spent \$3.2 million on the five-year education effort, which included a massive media blitz that began in July 1992. Public service announcements appeared on Mississippi radio and television stations, and advertisements appeared in newspapers statewide. The Mississippi Association of Broadcasters made airtime available at a greatly reduced rate.

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

Baptist Kerord

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDUCATION ISSUE

Published Since 1877

College's board of trustees tightens financial controls

Trustees for Mississippi College held a special meeting Aug. 12 to implement new financial controls and review progress in the current investigation involving \$3 million in donations to the school handled by former President Lewis Nobles Jr., who resigned Aug. 3.

Reporters for secular news media and the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board were not allowed to attend the meeting.

A five-point plan for handling donations, already in place in the school's institutional advancement and business affairs offices,

was expanded during the meeting to include the president's office. The plan mandates strict procedures for receipt of donations, such as cross-checks through separate recording systems.

Trustees also directed implementation of a program requiring that acknowledgements and receipts to donors include two original signatures by school officials. Key to the program is the new Donor Education Program, which will inform donors and foundations of procedures in making donations to the college.

Alan Perry, a Jackson attorney

hired by the trustees to lead the Nobles investigation, said law enforcement agencies have been

"We have made appropriate contact with the district attorney of Hinds County, U.S. attorney, and the FBI. We have made every effort to keep the public appropriately informed about this investigation, and the board (of trustees) is committed to continuing this openness."

Based on information supplied by the Mississippi College Office of Public Rela-

Hospitals' independence vote protested by S.C. Baptist exec

COLUMBIA, S.C. (BP) — The chief administrative officer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention has challenged a vote by South Carolina Baptist Hospitals Inc. trustees Aug. 9 to make their board independent of the convention.

The action by the hospitals' trustees came after hospital President Charles Beaman was advised May 25 of convention plans to legally enforce the state convention's rights to elect trustees of convention's institutions. In addition to the two hospitals, the convention has eight other agencies and institutions.

B. Carlisle Driggers, the chief administrative officer of the South Carolina Baptist Convention, said, "I regret the hospital's administration and trustees were not willing to give this process adequate time for success, because I believe we could have negotiated an arrangement that would have met the needs of the hospital and the con-

"While we are confident that our legal standing is firm in these matters, we deeply regret the dis-traction from our primary tasks that sustaining those rights would require. Again, I plead with the hospital administrators and trus-tees to yet reconsider this matter."

Executive Committee elects BSU associate

The Executive Committee of Fort Worth. the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board elected Debbie Wal-

lace as associate Baptist Student Union director at the University of Mississippi last

Wallace, 25, is a graduate of Baylor University, Waco, and Wallace Texas,

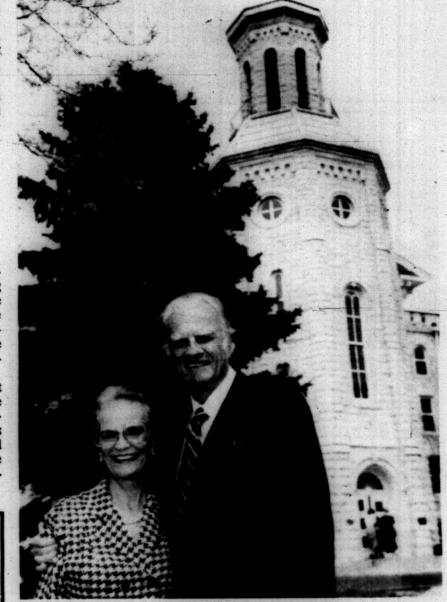
earned the master of religious education degree from Southwestern Seminary in

She has been an admissions counselor and recruiter at Dallas Baptist University since 1992, and sold church training materials, 1991-92. She was a summer youth minister for First Church, Dickinson, Texas, in 1990. Her field education work was at Dallas Baptist University's BSU. She is married to Jeff Wallace.

The Executive Committee also approved a study leave for Tim Nicholas, director of the Office of Communication. He will continue post-graduate studies at the University of Southern Mississippi.

B'Hood posts urgent need for clean-up crews

Disaster clean-up crews for lissouri and Illinois through the abor Day weekend are stilleing requested by Baptist orgazations in those areas. Presentbeing requested by Bapust organizations in those areas. Presently Mississippi is working to secure teams for St. Joseph, Mo.;



Grahams celebrate 50 years

MINNEAPOLIS — Evangelist Billy Graham and his wife Ruth celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Aug. 13 at their home in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina where they have lived for most of their married life. "Over these past 50 years, our love and faith in one another and in our Lord has enabled us to face whatever challenge has been placed before us," Graham said. In May the Grahams returned to Wheaton College in Wheaton, Ill., for the 50th reunion of their class of 1943. They are pictured under the landmark tower of Blanchard Hall on the front campus pictured under the landmark tower of Blanchard Hall on the front campus of their alma mater.

Blue Mountain College continues pursuit of excellence

The 121st annual session at Blue Mountain Coilege officially begins Aug. 29, when the dormitories open for students.

Orientation and registration are scheduled for Aug. 30, with classes beginning Tuesday, Aug. 31. During the orientation period, new students will meet Blue Mountain College's administrative officers and student leaders of the Student Government Association, Baptist Student Union, and Ministerial Alliance. Students will also have the opportunity to meet with their assigned advisors prior to registration.

Blue Mountain College has been fortunate in attracting and retaining an outstanding faculty and staff who are dedicated and committed to providing a quality program of higher education. Jean Harrington is the only new staff addition this year. A graduate of Blue Mountain College, Harrington taught in the local public schools for 33 years prior to her retirement in July. She joins the staff as an assistant in the Office of the Registrar. Her excellent background of experience and preparation along with her Christian commitment make her an outstanding addition to the Blue Mountain College family.

The 1992-93 academic session at Blue Mountain College ended on a sad note May 17, when lightning struck Broach Hall, the Baptist student center. The building was destroyed by the fire as were the contents including furnishings, office equipment and supplies, and materials used by the fine arts teams. The building burned the day the BSU director and students were returning from a mission trip to Vancouver, Canada. When the director returned to the campus,

she found that not only had she lost a building, equipment, and supplies, but also a number of her personal things were destroyed.

Unfortunately, the insurance coverage will not be sufficient to replace or rebuild the building, and it will be necessary for the college to raise a minimum of \$150,000 in gift funds. Contributions should be made payable to Blue Mountain College, designated for the BSU Building, and mailed to Blue Mountain College, Box 338, Blue Mountain, MS 38610. The replacement cost is estimated to be \$225,000.

The Broach building was the center of numerous BSU activities on campus, including noonday prayer services, spiritual development activities, training for the fine arts teams who provide ministry assistance in area churches, and the winter campus revival. The building is essential to the BSU program; and plans are, therefore, underway to reconstruct the building as soon as possible.

The building may have been destroyed, but not the BSU program. The Baptist Student Union is gearing up for an exciting year. BSU activities will be housed temporarily in a wooden structure which is large enough for noonday prayer services and some of the other ongoing events.

The BSU Executive Council will begin with a pre-school leadership workshop at Camp Lake Stephens in Oxford. Elizabeth Thurmond, assistant BSU director at Northeast Community College, will be a featured speaker. Freshman/Transfer Sunday will be held Aug. 29. This event helps new students meet each other and feel a little more comfortable about beginning college at Blue Moun-

By Jill Lindsey

tain. "Hee-Haw" is the theme for the Welcome Party on Aug. 30.

Auditions for the fine arts teams will be conducted Sept. 1-2 with a workshop to follow on Sept. 10-11. Teams to be filled include Reflections, a music ensemble; Kings Troupe, a drama group; and a clown team. The teams will be ready to serve in churches on Oct. 10. For more information about having these teams in your churches, call the Baptist Student Union office at 685-4771.

Other upcoming events include fall retreat at Trent Baptist Assembly in Florence, Ala. James Lewis, pastor of Fifteenth Avenue Church, Meridian, will be the guest speaker. The Staley Distinguished Christian Scholar Lecture

Series, scheduled for Oct. 4-6, will feature John Mourglia of Eureka Springs, Ark. Mourglia is best known for his "Potter's House Teaching Ministry." Missions Emphasis Week will be Nov. 15-19, involving both home and foreign missionary speakers.

This past summer eight students served as BSU summer missionaries, two served at Camp Garawya, one at Central Hills, and one as an innovator in Yellowstone National Park.

Blue Mountain College will host its annual High School Weekend, Nov. 19-20. This provides an opportunity for students to get a "taste" of college life. Activities kick off on Friday afternoon with registration and tours of the campus. On Friday night students will attend the BMC Theatre production of A Christmas Carol.

The entire Blue Mountain College community has been engaged in a self-study as required by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools for reaffirmation of accreditation. The study, which has been completed, will be published in the fall of 1993. An external committee representing the Commission on Colleges will visit the College campus April 18-21 1994.

"The self-study process was very helpful in examining the mission and purpose of Blue Mountain College," said BMC President E. Harold Fisher. "It was reaffirmed that the primary concern is to aid individual students to grow and to adjust within their own uniqueness to the demands and opportunities which surround them. The ultimate goal continues to be intellectual integrity, academic excellence, social consciousness, and Christian character.

"The prospects for 1993-94 are exciting," Fisher added, "and each time a new year begins at Blue Mountain College we are reminded of the opportunities to serve the students who study on the campus. We are grateful for the support of Mississippi Baptists in making this opportunity available to students."

Lindsey is public relations director, BMC.



20. This provides an opportunity for stuburned last May. Cost of replacement is estimated at \$225,000.

Sept. 3 is BME grants application deadline

Mississippi Baptist college ministerial students wishing to apply for financial assistance through the Board of Ministerial Education (BME) have until Sept. 3 to complete the application process, according to Ruthie Courtney, BME's secretary.

BME, an agency of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, provides monthly grants to ministerial students attending one of Mississippi Baptists' three colleges. The grants are funded by the Cooperative Program.

Application packets are available from BME campus representatives at each Mississippi Baptist college. Interested students should contact William Washburn at Blue Mountain College, Loyd Allen at Mississippi College, and Hardy Denham at William Carey Col-

lege.
To qualify for a BME grant, the student must be a member of and pursuing ministry in a Southern Baptist church; have made a public commitment to ministry; be a full-time undergraduate student at a Mississippi Baptist college; and

maintain a 2.0 grade point average.

When applying, students must provide a copy of their license and/or ordination certificate, or a letter from their church verifying their public commitment to ministry. Students who received ministerial aid last year are only required to submit an application form.

BME members will be on each campus the week of Sept. 13-17 to conduct interviews with each applicant. All applications will be reviewed and acted on during BME's Sept. 20-21 meeting. Recipents' first check will be issued by Oct. 1, including both September and October stipends. Subsequent stipends will be issued monthly throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Along with Courtney, BME members are J.M. Wood, president; Ernest Turcotte, vice president; James Ruffin; David Millican; Chester Grisham; Dell Scoper; Gary Fordham; Hal Buchanan; and Louise Griffith. Campus representatives serve as ex-officio

By helping you become your best, Blue Mountain offers an education for a lifetime.

Blue Mountain College offers an environment which stimulates learning and nurtures Christian faith. At Blue Mountain, we challenge and enable YOU

- * to grow intellectually and spiritually;
- * to build lasting friendships;
- to discover talents and the joys of sharing them with others;
- ★ to assume a responsible, creative role in college and community life;
- to respond confidently and successfully to the challenges of the 21st Century.



Carey College adds new faculty

William Carey College opens its 1993-94 academic year this week with a variety of activities on its Hattiesburg and Coast campuses. Registration for the Hattiesburg campus is Aug. 20, while students on the Coast campus register

Aug. 19.
In Hattiesburg, opening week activities began Wednesday when student government officers and resident assistants moved into dormitories. Activities during the next week include a block party featuring games, music, and a picnic hosted by faculty members; a Leadership Banquet; orientation for new students; and Baptist Student Union and Student Government Association welcome back parties. Other events include Rush Week, Aug. 30-Sept. 2, and cheer-leader tryouts, Aug. 23-27. Melinda Runnels, director of student activities, and Macon Phillips, SGA president, are coordinating the events.

Students attending the Coast campus also will be greeted with a variety of welcome activities. Among them are a Coke Welcome Wagon for students during registration and a welcome back party the first week of classes. The formation of clubs, involving students in service projects, campus improvement efforts, and monthly social events, are also being planned for this year, said Ros-alind Robbins, SGA sponsor at Carey on the Coast. Assisting Robbins in planning is Hannah

Cofer, SBA president.

Along with new and returning students, WCC also is welcoming a new dean and 11 new faculty members to its campuses this fall. Seven of the new faculty will teach in WCC's division of nursing, with the remainder teaching in the schools/departments of education, music, mathematics, and

"The enrollment growth during recent years and the commitment of the college to strengthen programs called for the addition of well credentialed, experienced faculty," explained Larry Braidfoot, WCC academic vice president. "We think all of these meet those criteria and are proud to add them to the distinguished Carey

William M. Hetrick is the new dean of Carey's division of education and psychology. Hetrick moves to Carey from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, where he was doctoral program coordinator and associate professor in the department of leadership

and counseling. New nursing faculty, with title, are: Mary Ann Clark, instructor; Kathleen M. Elliot, assistant professor; Mary Jane Last Holly, instructor; Sandra J. Loper, assistant professor, Martha C. Morris, assistant professor; and Margaret

Other new faculty, with title, are: Nancy K. Metts, assistant professor of education; David Young,

B. Payne, assistant professor.

instrumental program coordinator in the Winters School of Music; Iris Abrams, associate professor of education; Jelinda Barnes, instructor of mathematics; and Richard J. Chin, instructor of biology.

Compiled from WCC reports.

BSU helps students survive campus life

Carey's Baptist Student Union (BSU) is anticipating another exciting and rewarding school

The BSU Executive Council will be on hand Thursday to welcome and assist new and returning students to the Hattesburg campus. The BSU will also have a coke and information booth during registration on Friday.

Also on Friday, the BSU will sponsor "Survival Weekend." The event will allow new students to meet other students, BSU members, and church staff members who will provide information about area churches.

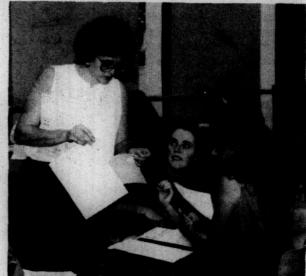
Beginning Wednesday, at 9 p.m., the BSU will begin its regular weekly programming with CELEBRATION, a student praise and worship hour. Other weekly programs are BSU Prayer Power Hour, 7 p.m. Mondays, and Mid-Day Focus, on Tuesdays at 11:30 a.m. Other activities include weekly Bible studies, ministry teams, and choir and drama ensembles.



'Gene Edwards, wife of Jim Edwards, president of William Carey College, welcomes entering freshman Neil Marsh of Petal to the president's

Transfer students to William Carey College receive assistance from Wendy Moore of the financial aid office.

01



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Baptist Medical Center offers schools of allied health

The diagnoses and treatment of a patient may depend upon the work of these healthcare professionals. Though they often go unrecognized by the general public, these professionals are vital to the healthcare team. These professionals are medical technologists and radiologic technologists.

"Medical technologists perform and analyze laboratory tests that physicians use to diagnose and treat patients," explained Gwinn Magee, MBMC's assistant executive director who works with the schools of Medical Technology and Radiography. "Radiologic technologists assist with x-ray procedures."

Both types of technologists have the opportunity to care for people, sometimes by using tested methods and sometimes by performing ground-breaking research.

"We expect our students and our staff to be intellectually curious, and to strive for excellence," Magee said.

During the past 22 years, 93% of MBMC medical technology students have passed the national certification examinations required for employment. The national pass rate is only 80%. During the past 12 years, 97% of MBMC's radiography students have passed the national certification examinations required.

"Learning to meet the challenges of the medical professions in a clinical setting at MBMC gives our students the opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience. Our instructors are qualified medical technologists and radiological technologists," said Kent Strum, MBMC executive director. "When our students graduate, they are prepared to find good jobs and are rewarded by the tremendous sense of service that comes from beloing others."

helping others."

"There was no question which radiology school I wanted to attend," said Donna Burt, first year radiology student. "I had talked to my school counselors

spearheading activities for Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's BSU are from left, Kathy Bearden, BSU director; May Killebrew, BSU president for MBMC's School of Radiography; Carolyn Collier, BSU president for MBMC's School of Medical Technology; and Lu Harding, assistant executive director who works with BSU.

and some friends of mine who are physicians. They all highly recommended MBMC's School of Radiography."

Former medical technology student Benita Swan said the same was true with the School of Medical Technology. "MBMC's School of Medical Technology has an outstanding reputation. I had heard many good things about the Medical Technology School at Baptist, and once I became a student I realized they were all true. I graduated four years ago, and have been working at Baptist ever

since. The people here are great!"
In addition to the education

programs and up-to-date clinical experience, MBMC also emphasizes spiritual enrichment. An active Baptist Student Union led by Kathy Bearden, BSU director, offers Christian fellowship and activities for the students. "We have a good group of students, and we want to reach people," Bearden

said. "The hospital is our mission field. We find plenty of opportunities to witness and to serve."

Among this year's activities are a Christmas and Easter concert for all hospital employees; a Christmas party for the children at the Baptist Children's Village; Christmas carolling for MBMC patients; Religious Emphasis Week with Don Rhymes, First Church, Jackson, during October; raising money for missions through a flea market; Bible studies; and an active choir. More activities are being planned by the 1993-94 BSU executive council.

"BSU is just wonderful," Burt said. "BSU is a friend to me. I look forward to our meetings each Monday."

"Since I was away from my home church, BSU was a 'safe haven' for me," Swan said. "I made a lot of friends through BSU. Through those friends and through the great programs BSU offered, I felt I grew spiritually."

MBMC's administrative staff strongly supports its allied health schools. "We enjoy having students at the medical center," Magee said. "Students give us a chance to get acquainted with today's youth. We believe students play a vital role in our hospital. Their ideas, energy, and inquisitive minds challenge us to provide them with the good resources they need."

According to Bearden, the combined emphasis on intellectual and spiritual development helps students to succeed.

"Strong administrative backing, dedicated instructors, excellent clinical experience, and good fellowship combine to build a firm foundation for the student beginning his or her medical career," she said. MBMC provides outstanding education opportunities for those who are interested in the medical field.

If one wants to be a medical technologist, he or she must earn a bacçalaureate degree. MBMC's affiliations with Mississippi College and Mississippi State University allow students to apply their 12 months of clinical training as their senior year in the medical technology degree program.

To become a radiologic tech-

To become a radiologic technologist, one must have a strong math background and must have scored 19 or above on the ACT. The applicant must be at least 18 years old and have a high school education or the equivalent, along with first and second semester college anatomy and physiology, and either intermediate or college algebra. A "C" average, or above, must be maintained in these courses.

MBMC also maintains a clinical affiliation with Hinds Community College's Schools of Respiratory Therapy and Practical Nursing, allowing students the opportunity to rotate through the hospital units for clinical work credits. In addition, nursing students from nearby colleges and universities can participate in clinical training at MBMC, and residents from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine rotate through some service divisions at the hospital.

For more information about MBMC allied health schools, contact Kathy Bearden, (601) 968-5144, or write Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, 1225 N. State Street, Jackson, MS 39202.

Faculty, students represent Carey around the world

William Carey College students and faculty represented the school in a variety of projects during the summer. Four students participated in mission endeavors in Honduras and Guatemala, while faculty and students traveled to Israel, the Cayman Islands, China, Hungary, and California to participate in academic and minimate traveled to Israel.

ic and ministry projects.

Elaine McMahan and Carey alumna Martha Anderson were members of a team from Temple Church, Hattiesburg, who ministered in Luire, Honduras, in late May. In July, Paula Pounds and Chris Holder went with a group from First Church, Laurel, to Mochito, Honduras, on a medical/dental project. Brian Tatum spent the first week of June in Guatemala with a team from seven churches in the Gulf Coast and Pearl River associations.

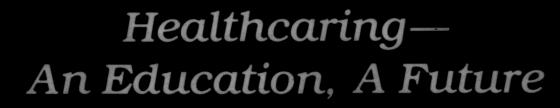
Religion professor Dan Brown-

ing and four Carey students —
Macon Phillips, Eric Wade, Robert
Wallace, and David Williams —
worked on an excavation project at
Tel Beth Shean in Israel.

Leonard Day, instructor of music, spent eight weeks working with First Baptist Church of Grand Cayman in developing the church's first music program.

first music program.

Martin Ehde, Dorman Laird, and Myron Noonkester participated in separate academic opportunities during the summer. Ehde, assistant professor of mathematics, taught Engish at Guangxi University in Nanning, China. Laird, professor of religion, taught at the International Baptist Lay Academy in Budapest, Hungary. Noonkester, associate professor of history, was selected to be a member of the National Endowment of Humanities Summer Institute, held at Claremont (Calif.) Graduate School.



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Baptists and Mississippi College: 143-year partnership

By Norman H. Gough

A 143-year partnership between Mississippi College and the Mississippi Baptist Convention will continue to expand later this week as the Convention's largest and oldest institution throws open its doors for the 168th academic session.

Acquired by Mississippi Bap-tists in 1850, the college today stands as a tribute to denominational leaders of days gone by. It stands on the brink of what could become its finest year ever as an educational institution.

How positive do things look? Consider the fact that as this was being prepared, applications for the upcoming school year show a 40% increase over last year. Over 600 of those applicants have indicated they would live in one of the residence halls, up several hundred over the previous year. New applications from commuter students have surpassed the 500 mark, exceeding last year's figure at the same time by almost

Financial support is up, too.
This past school year showed a
63% increase in alumni giving and a 70% increase in dollars given by friends of the college. When the college closed its books on May 31 it marked the 61st consecutive year of "in the black" financial operation, a fete accomplished by very few institutions.

During the past quarter century, college endowment has increased 725% and annual giving has increased 2,900%. Some 16,616 diplomas have been awarded and

total student hours generated has increased 50%.

The influence of MC expands far beyond the campus proper. During the past school year pro-fessors Kaye Wilson and Deborah Bolian supervised 23 nursing students in medical missions in various areas of Mexico. Jerry Rankin, class of 1964, was named president of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, adding still another Choc grad among the leadership positions in the SBC. Fifteen students have been going each year for a semester abroad in London, while other professors have taught in China, and there have been educational and cultural exchanges with five former Soviet Republics.

During the recently concluded academic year, the college was recognized nationally by U.S. News & World Report in its listing of America's best colleges and universities. For the fifth consecutive year the Templeton Foundation included the college in its Honor Roll of the nation's top character building institutions.

This national recognition is expected to continue as the college counts down toward the opening of its 168th academic session with arrival of students at the end of this week.

When students start arriving on Aug. 21, they will discover increased campus beautification as well as maintenance improvements on a number of campus

New faculty members will also be evident, including a new dean for the School of Education,

Thomas N. Taylor. Taylor joins the college after serving as superintendent of schools in Florence, Ala. He had previously worked as an administrator in the Jackson Public Schools.

There will also be a new head of the Department of English, Michael Travers. Other new faculty members who have already been approved by the Board of Trustees include Kathleen Anno, instructor, Grace Clark, assistant professor, and Charlotte Stephenson, assistant professor, all in the School of Nursing. Mitchell E. Counts, associate director of the Law Library, will join the School of Law staff. Charles Dennis, professor, and Sarah Pitts, assistant professor, will be newcomers in the School of Business. Teaching in the School of Education will be Penny Haddox, instructor, home economics/fitness. Kerry Owens, instructor, has been added to the Communication faculty, while Larry Ridener, assistant professor, will be new in the area of Sociology/Social Work.

The fall semester officially gets underway Aug. 21, as freshmen report for resident hall assignments and general orienta-tion. The orientation/registration session begins at 1 p.m. in Swor Auditorium of Nelson Hall as students and their parents gather to meet and hear from administrative personnel and representatives of the Student Government Associa-

Academic advising will begin at 2:15 p.m., while the parents will move over to the Hall of Fame Room of the B.C. Rogers Student

Center for an information session. A coke party, hosted by the administration and faculty, will follow at 2:45 p.m. Rory Lee, acting president, along with his wife, Janet, will be hosting an Open House for freshmen students on Sunday from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m. in the Jennings Hall courtyard.

Registration opens Aug. 23, with a computerized student registration system being used for the first time. The college has installed the state-of-the art BAN-NER software marketed by Systems and Computer Technology Corporation (SCT), the first school in the metro area to use such a system. SCT has been engaged to supervise computer operations on campus, with Terry Akers, an experienced manager, serving as site director. The new on-line registration procedure will eliminate some steps in the registration process. Students will be given instructions when they enter the coliseum.

The Aug. 23 registration will be for freshmen and students attending night classes only. Transfer students and seniors will register Aug. 24, beginning at 8:30 a.m. Juniors and sophomores will register Aug. 25, beginning at 8:30

Graduate and non-degree students may register during any of the above time slots. All graduate and undergraduate classes will

Evening School registration is scheduled for Aug. 26 and Aug.

Gough is director of MC's Office of Public Relations.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTISTS

session. As Baptists, you can take pride in the fact that Mississippi College has been recognized as one of America's finest!!

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Continue to send students our way. Fall registration will be held in the A.E. Wood Coliseum. Admission to registration will be based on classification and the first letter of the student's surname according to the following schedule.

MONDAY, AUGUST 23 Freshmen (1)

A-G		1:00-1:45 p.m.
H-P		1:45-2:30 p.m.
Q-Z		2:30-3:30 p.m.
4:30-7:30 p.m		
	*Advisors located in their office	

TUESDAY, AUGUST 24

	Alditolita
A-G	8:30-9:30 a.m.
H-P	9:30-10:30 a.m.
Q-Z	10:30-11:30 a.m.
	Seniors (4)
A-G	1:30-2:30 p.m.
H-P	2:30-3:30 p.m.
Q-Z	3:30-4:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25

	Juniora (a)
A-G	8:30-9:30 a.m.
H-P	9:30-10:30 a.m.
Q-Z	10:30-11:30 a.m.
	Sophomores (2)
A-G	1:30-2:15 p.m.
H-P	2:15-3:00 p.m.
07	2.00.4.00

Graduate and Non-Degree Students Graduate and Non-Degree students may register at any of the times listed above.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26 CLASSES BEGIN

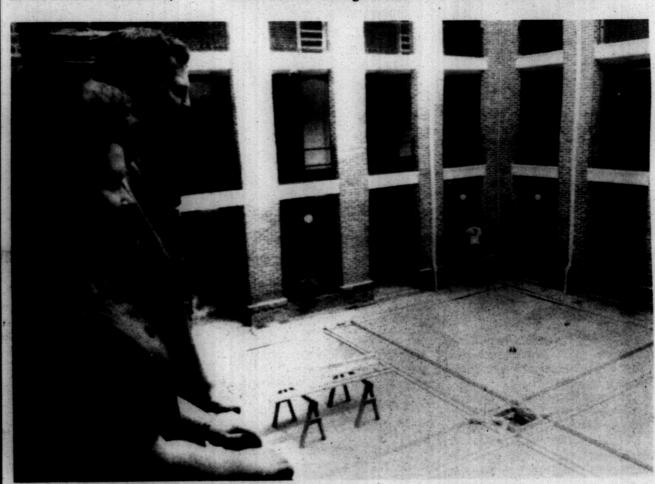
HELD IN THE B.C. ROGERS HALL OF FAME ROOM. **THURSDAY, AUGUST 26**

*4:30-6:30 p.m.Night Registration **TUESDAY, AUGUST 31**

*4:30-6:30 p.m. Night Registration

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Jennings Hall renovation

Observing the refurbishing of the courtyard in Jennings Hall are Paula Fields of Clinton and Kenny Bizot of Metairie, La. The courtyard, part of a building con-structed in 1907, has become the focal point of many

social activities over the past year. The patio floor will be bricked with a fountain scheduled to be added later. (MC photo)

Names in the News



Sixteen adults received diplomas at a graduation service for completing a three month course called "A Disciple's Prayer Life" at Shady Grove First Church, Heidelberg. Sharber W. Smith is pastor. Pictured, back row, are Jack Thornton, James Walters, James Thomas, Nadine Rowell, Betty Rowell, George Blackledge, Dewayne Schlette, and Jelly Welborn; front row, Nan Sincair, Kay Whitaker, Sally Smith, Stella Smith, Sylvia Brewer, and Junie Boulton. Not pictured is Evon Thornton.



Louis C. Bennett, deacon, was honored on May 30 for 35 years of service to Delisle First Church, Gulf Coast Association.



Hardy Church, Grenada, recently recognized two inactive senior deacons and presented each with a walnut and brass plaque. Pictured, from left, are James Purdie, E.J. Taylor, J. Courtney Selvy, pastor, and John H. Caldwell, chairman of deacons.

Simpson County native, former pastor M.W. Fortenberry dies

of Magee, 67, a retired pastor, died Aug. 4 of cancer at VA Medical Center, Jackson.

Services were Aug. 6 at Mims Mitchell Funeral Home in Magee with burial in Sharon Cemetery.

Fortenberry was a native of Simpson County. He pastored churches in Simpson, Rankin, Smith, Scott, and Covington counties. He was a veteran of World War II. He attended Clarke College and University of Southern Mississippi.

Survivors include his wife, Edral L. Fortenberry of Magee:

Magee; three brothers; three sisters; and one grandchild.

Matthew Waydene Fortenberry one daughter, Alana D. Blair of

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Locust Street Church, Pike Association, will hold an ordination service for Danny Creel, minister of music, Aug. 22, at 7 p.m.

Michael D. Robison has joined the Pastoral Care Department of the Mississippi State Hospital at

Whitfield. He goes to that position from a two-year residency as chaplain at Methodist Medical Center in Dallas, Texas. A native of Waco, Texas, he is a

of Robison graduate of Robison Houston Baptist University and Southwestern Seminary.



Mack Amis, left, of Central Church, Brookhaven, presented Hal Hatten with a Certificate of License to the gospel ministry. Central Church licensed Hatten to the ministry on May 23.



Ken Rhodes, director of missions for Pearl River Association, was recognized July 11 by Myrtle Porter, association secretary-treasurer, and the members of the association for exceptional leadership and participation beyond the call of duty. Rhodes, who was named Poplarville's Citizen of the Year in 1991, was given a monetary gift and time off from his job. During Rhodes' tenure, three missions have become churches; the missions office has been completed; ence center.

First Church, Amory, has called Shannon Slover as minister of students and activities, effective July 11. A native of DeRidder, La., Slover is a graduate of McNeese State University and

New Orleans Seminary. Previous

place of service was First Church,

Ponchatoula, La.

Faith Church, Starkville, has called Charlie Murphey as minister of music and college, effective Sept. 15. He previously worked with the Broken Arrow Bible

Ranch, Vanderwagen, New Mexi-

co. Blaine Allen is pastor.

Danny Moss has resigned the pastorate of Macedonia Church in Lauderdale County to accept Mt. Moriah Church in Lincoln County. He began his ministry at Mt. Moriah Church on Aug. 1.

Crystal Springs Church, Tylertown, has called Jeff Burris as pastor. He was formerly pastor of Arm Church, Lawrence Association. Burris is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary. He is a native of Chillicothe, Ohio.

Homecomings

Short Creek (Yazoo): Aug. 22; services, 11 a.m. and covered dish dinner at noon; Martin Williams, Forest, guest speaker; Joyce Ainsworth, Pearl, music; Norris Ables, pastor.

Emmanuel, Grenada: Aug. 21-22; all former pastors except William Waddle, who is serving as a Southern Baptist missionary in Uganda, will be present; Clarence Cooper Jr., pastor.

First, Yazoo City: Aug. 22;

Revival Results

Shady Grove, Batesville (Panola): Aug. 1-6; Buck Morton, Paris, Tenn., evangelist; Jerry Perkins, Batesville, music; average attendance, 120; 50 attended marriage enrichment night; John Stewart, pastor.

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services, 11 a.m.; covered dish in activities building at noon; Roy D. Raddin, Greenville, guest speaker; Paul Ott in a "God and Country" program at 6 p.m.; R. David Raddin, pastor.

Newhaven, Terry: Aug. 22; 51st homecoming; worship service, 10:15 a.m. and dinner on the grounds; James Dubose, Dalton, Ga., guest speaker; Gene Jordan,

VBS Results

Locust Street, McComb (Pike): July 26-30; first Bible School since 1989; enrollment was 69; average attendance of 52; two professions of faith; J. Frank Smith, pastor.

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Just for the Record

Arrowood Church, Meridian, will present Heaven Bound and The Ridgeways of Kinston, N.C., on Aug. 26 at 7 p.m.

Agricultural Missions Foundation will hold its semi-annual meeting on Aug. 20, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Mississippi Chemical Corporation Boardroom, Yazoo City, according to Larry Cox, president. The speaker will be Clifton F. Curtis, Southern Baptist mis-

sionary to Burkina Faso. Curtis was born in Greenwood and considers Winona his hometown. He is a graduate of Mississippi State University and attended Curtis Southwestern

Seminary. Also on program will be Ross King, volunteer businessman-farmer from Texas who has spent some time in Kazakhstan. Gene Triggs is AMF chairman.

First Church, Crystal Springs, will present Jack Price of Nashville as featured guest soloist at "An Evening Made for Praise," Aug. 25 at 7:30 p.m. He will be accompanied by the church Aug. 20 at 7:30 p.m.



An Acteen Activator group from Warren Association went to New Orleans and held Bible, music, and craft classes, and assisted in the Carver Baptist Center's summer tutoring program, July 18-23. Pictured, from left, are Jackie Richardson, leader, Lisa Winpigler, Amy Hensarling, Dawn Hess, Krissy Oldenburg, Tara Hall, Amanda Richardson, Kay Winpigler, leader, Rachel Burnett; and back, Kay Lee, associational Acteen director.

choir under the direction of James Beasley, minister of music. On Thursday, Aug. 26, the church will host a workshop previewing new music from the Prism Music Company. For more information, call (601) 892-1149.

Calvary Church, Durant, will host a gospel singing featuring The McKeithens of Nashville on

Revival Dates

Sebastopol (Scott): Aug. 22-26; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs., 12:30 and 7 p.m.; Lucius Marion, Clarksdale, evangelist; John Alumbaugh, Forest, music; David Sartin, pastor.

Bowlin, Sallis: Aug. 22-25; Sunday, 11 a.m., fellowship meal, and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Ralph Hunt, Goodman, evangelist; V.B. Keith, music; Johnny Parks,

Lakeshore, Jackson: Aug. 26-29; Thurs.-Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday,

10:30 a.m.; Gail DeBord, evangelist; Clayton Pope, music; Matthew DeBord, pastor.

West Ripley, Ripley: Aug. 22-27; Sunday, regular time; weekdays, 10:30 a.m.and 7:30 p.m.; Bert Harper, Tupelo, evangelist; Cris Reaves, Ripley, music; Billy W. Baker, pastor.

Good Hope, Purvis (Lamar): Aug. 29-Sept. 2; Sunday, 11 a.m., lunch, and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Clint Oakley, Memphis, evangelist; Charles Murray Case, Hattiesburg, music; Carl Estes, pastor.

Trinity, Pearl (Rankin): Aug. 29-Sept. 2; 7 p.m.; Johnny W. Tucker, Citronelle, Ala., evangelist; Joe Wood, Pearl, music; Kenny Goff, pastor.



First Church, Brandon, celebrated a note burning on June 27. The church paid loans totaling \$2,380,000 in a little over six years. Pictured are Hayes Graves, chairman of the building committee and fund drive committee, and Gene Henderson, pastor.

Ruthine Burkes dies Aug. 14

Ruthine Burkes, 60, wife of longtime Mississippi pastor and current Mississippi Transportation Commissioner Wayne Burkes, died Aug. 14 of cancer at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson. Funeral service was Aug. 16 at First Church, Clinton, with burial in Lakewood Memorial Park in Jackson.

Burkes, a Neshoba county native and graduate of Mississippi College, taught home economics in Clinton before retiring last year. She was a member of First Church, Clinton, where she was active in Sunday School and Bible school programs.

Survivors include her husband; sons, Ted of Clinton and Tim of Langley AFB in Virginia; father, Homer Ferguson of Philadelphia; brother, Wayne Ferguson of Orange, Texas; and four grandchil-

Memorials may be made to the Wayne and Ruthine Burkes Memorial Scholarship Fund at Mississippi College, P.O. Box 4005, Clinton, MS 39058.



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Winners of the 1993 State High School Boys Slowpitch tournament, played at Woodville Heights Church, Jackson, July 9-10, are: first place, top photo, Macedonia Church, Brookhaven, coached by Mike Britt; second place, middle photo, Zion Hill Church, Wesson, coached by Jimmy Ashley; and third place, First Church, Starkville, coached by Tom Daniels.

On May 17, 1991, a brilliant bolt of lightning struck the 90member Valley Baptist Church in Middletown, Pennsylvania, causing a fire that destroyed the building.

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Letters to the editor





Expresses thanks

Thanks for all you have done for me, Mississippi Baptists. When I needed a college in which I could grow spiritually, you provided Mississippi College where I was received with love, compassion, and concern by professors and preachers in the churches. Also, the WMU helped me with a mission scholarship to help with the cost of school.

While still in college, you folks in Mississippi ordained me and helped me serve in my first pastorate in Durant. Further, as I sought the leadership of the Lord as to where I would serve as a missionary, you were studying Alaska in the WMU groups in all the churches in Mississippi. Since I had just spent two years in Alasla as a lay youth director in a church with a pastor from Mississippi (John DeFoore) and had worked for a short time with a missionary in the Artic (Dick Miller, also from Mississippi), I had learned some of the spiritual needs of Eskimo people. You kind folks in Mississippi

llowed me to go to two or three thurches each week and speak on piritual needs of Alaska. During nese mission studies, the Lord aid, "Don, do you believe all this ou are telling these people."

My heart's response was, 'God, the best I know, this is His reply was, "What are you going to do about it?"

Well, it's 39 years later now, and following college and seminary, I have been blessed by being able to be a missionary in Alaska for the past 32 years. Your hundreds of letters, your continuous prayers, and your support through the Cooperative Program have made you my continuous partners through the years. As my wife Marianne and I served 20 years in the native villages and 13 years as director of the Alaska Baptist Native School of Theology teaching and leading native people to become pastors and leaders in the churches of Alaska, you have been my partner. Now, I'm old; my time to retire has come, and there you are again — Mississippians and Alaskians are aligned in part-

Keep praying for Alaska. Keep loving and training missionaries. Keep the partnership strong in the Cooperative Program.

Thanks for adopting a brother Christian from the high mountains of North Carolina into your love and partnership.

Donald J. Rollins Anchorage, Alaska

Re-evaluating letter

The letter in the July 29 issue (name withheld by Editor) raised some interesting questions which require answers.

First of all, emotion should be divorced from reason in regard to abortion. It is easy for pro-lifers to become excited and scream, "Murder!" Likewise the pro-abortionists shout that their rights are being violated. Let's calm down and examine the issue from the biblical standpoint.

believe the Bible teaches that life is sacred from conception. Jeremiah 1:4-5 says that God knew him even before he was formed in the womb and ordained him a prophet. In Psalm 139:16 David says that "the days which were ordained for me were all written when, as yet, there was not one of them." There are many other verses one could cite as evidence of God's view of human

In regard to the question about miscarriages — time does not matter to God. Is the child who dies moments or weeks after conception of any less value to him than the one who dies 50 or even 100 years after conception? Science admits that all a person will ever be in regard to looks and many other qualities is determined at the moment of conception. The only difference between that tiny being and a newborn baby is growth. Perhaps pastors should conduct funerals for miscarried and stillborn babies, for I'm sure that most parents grieve just as much for them as for an older child. As to where they spend eternity — that's up to God and his wisdom.

(I believe the writer's interpretation of Exodus 21:22-25 is mistaken. In these verses "inducing miscarriage" is unintentional — it comes as a result of a woman trying to stop two men from fighting. If the woman is injured and miscarries, the husband may demand whatever penalty he desires subject to the approval of the judges.)

And last, the question was raised: "Is pro-choice, but antiabortion a valid reasoning?" The two views are simply incompatible with one another. That is to say that you believe abortion is wrong, but people should be able to go ahead and have one if that's what they want to do. If you believe abortion is wrong - why? Because it's the taking of a life? Then that is murder.

Pregnant women are unique in that they are no longer just one person — they are two. Both have basic human rights. Here is a question of my own: Does the right to convenience (and records show that almost all abortions are due to the fact that these children are "inconvenient") outweigh the right to live?

Debra Diaz Ecru

Set **Record** straight

I have just read the article written by Don McGregor (Baptist Record, Aug. 5) about the Bonds' return to Hong Kong in order to help the seminary move to a new location. I applaud their willingness to go and am sure that their help will make the transition much easier for the seminary.

I feel it necessary to correct a

number of inaccuracies in the article: The seminary is being phased out by the Foreign Mission Board, but it will still receive \$70,000 in

1994 and 1995.

Also, there are five missionaries who give themselves full-time, and three part-time, to seminary teaching. This amounts to about \$200,000 per year in salaries, plus housing, another \$50,000.

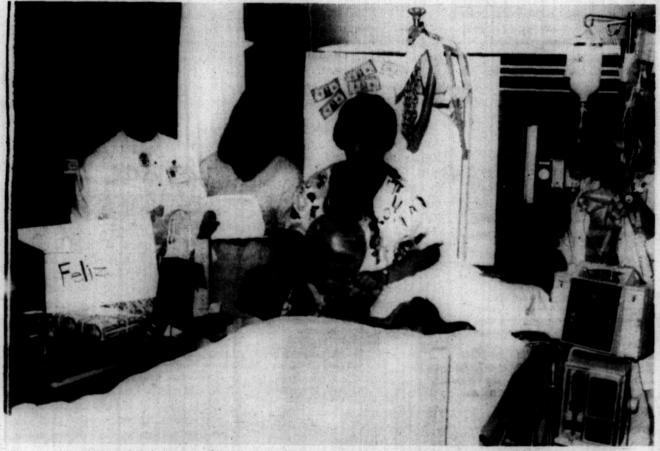
The Hong Kong Baptist College is now a government statesupported college. Churches support a chaplain's office there. Hong Kong now has 115 churches and chapels.

There are few, if any, boat people now in Hong Kong. The Vietnamese have been repatriated to Vietnam and illegal Chinese immigrants are returned to China.

Two English-language churches and two Chinese Baptist churches have ministries to the 70,000 Filipinos.

There are 5.5 million non-Christians in the Hong Kong area. There are great mission opportunities. Pray for us.

Clarence W. McCord Missionary to Hong Kong, Now on furlough in Tylertown



Hospital birthday celebration

Jose Mendoza-Oseguera celebrated his 15th birthday in grand style with the help of volunteers and pediatric staff members at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. The Honduran teenager is in the Jackson facility for treatment from injuries he received in a bicycle wreck in his homeland June 6. He arrived in Jackson June 25 due to the response of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Brotherhood Department to a plea for help from Southern Baptist missionaries working

in Honduras. Volunteers from the Mississippi Baptist Medical/Dental Fellowship, Baptist Nursing Fellowship, and area churches are helping provide medical care for Jose, along with teaching him to read and speak English. Jose underwent his first round of skin grafts the week of Aug. 2. His doctor, Greg Fisher, a member of First Church, Jackson, said Jose will be at MBMC for another two to three months. (MBMC photo)

Devotional

50 years after Ridgecrest

By Indy Whitten

A rather delapidated bus pulled up 53 years ago in front of Pritchell Hall at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly in North Carolina, and I was one of 30 Baptist Student Union (BSU) members from Mississippi who went in to register.

Many and varied have been my experiences since then, but those eight days stand alone in my memory as a life-determining crossroads. I can see myself standing on a small mountainside on the way to Red Bird Cottage, our home for the week. I can feel the rain that overtook me one afternoon and shrank my mid-calf crepe dress to a miniskirt. Where to hide!

I can almost hear the unique voice of Frank Leavell as he spoke of the "Master's Minority" and convinced me that I wanted above all to

I am still moved by the message of Charles E. Maddry, then executive director of the Foreign Mission Board. At the close of his message, he invited those who would say to God, "My life is yours. I am

willing to go anywhere and do anything — anytime."

That was for me. I stood on the same Ridgecrest platform I am looking at here at Ridgecrest in 1993. I never changed that dedication or

A lot of things can happen in 53 years. I found my mate. I found my fields of service on three continents. I found my reason for being in the

If 1993 Ridgecrest-goers could view a 1940 student group, they might smile and say, "What a formal bunch! Are they dressed for Sunday morning church all the time?"

Those 1940 students yearned to live in the spirit and ministry of

maximum Christianity, and I am convinced that Christians at Ridgecrest want the same in 1993

The place is the same. Nestled in the beautiful mountains of North Carolina is the best of places to remember the words of Psalm 90:2: Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth and

the world, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God."

Whitten and her husband, Charles, are retired missionaries and former volunteer coordinators of the prayer ministry at MBCB.

Uniform

New family order



By Michael O'Brien Ephesians 5:21-6:4

"Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God." What a statement! It changes everything for some of us, doesn't it? We relate well to verse 22: "Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord" (NIV). I prefer the NIV in these passages because the paragraph break is after verse 20, thus putting verse 21 with the instructions into the section dealing with the family. That would make this verse (21) sound like this: "Husbands and wives, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. Wives, submit to your

husbands as to the Lord" (Eph. 5:21-22 NIV).

Mutual submission. Mutual submission is vital to sound Christian relationships within the church. That being the case, how much more vital is mutual submission within the family? One thing that we can be sure of is that God did not set up a dictatorship within the Christian home. God has a "chain of command," however, and he is the head of the chain.

If Christian families are to survive the turmoil of this godless generation, they are going to have to be united families. Every Christian family has but one head, and that one Head is the Lord Jesus Christ. When Paul writes that the husband is the head of wife, he implies that the husband is the spiritual leader, both in relationship to his wife and also to his children.

Submission of the wife. What does Paul mean in verse 22? He means exactly what he says. In the "chain of com-mand" the husband falls directly under the Head, Jesus Christ. Please understand that this verse does not contradict Galatians 3:28: "there is neither male nor female,...." God does not make silly mistakes. Paul tells us that God does things decently and in order. He loves us and provides for us; his Son died for us, one and all. A wife needs to lovingly yield to her husband his God-given authority. A husband who loves God will want only the very best for his family and a wife's submission will only enhance the relationship they have under God.

Obedience of the children. Why are children disobedient? Let's look at verse 4 of Chapter 6 before we deal with verse 1-3: "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord." We can exasperate our children in a lot of ways, and neglecting them is one of those ways. We need to heed all of this verse which deals with training and instructing. If we are spending time training and instructing our children, we will not have a tendency to "exasperate" them. Most disobedient children are looking for some kind of

parental attention, according to James Dobson.

When Paul instructs children in verses 1-3, he quotes a commandment: "Honor your father and mother." Children who honor their parents are obedient children, and these passages of Scripture should be included by parents who instruct their children.

With the attack of Satan being launched against the family today, Christians should take every opportunity to strengthen the family unit. An old saying holds true today: "Families that pray together stay together." "Families that pray together, stay together."

O'Brien is pastor, First Church, Lexington.



Bible Book

Evidence of God's fellowship



By Jewel P. Merritt 1 John 1:3-2:5, 9-11

There are many reasons why people write letters. They write business letters, love letters, newsy letters, and sendmoney letters (usually from college students), to mention just a few. John wrote his first letter with two reasons in mind: (1) to warn of false teachers (2:26) and (2) to assure his readers that they could know they were saved (5:13).

The Incarnate Word the basis of fellowship (1:3-4). The Lord God wants us to know and love him, to enjoy fellowship with him. Isn't that amazing? He came here in the Person of Jesus Christ. Jesus showed us how much he enjoyed fellowship with rich and poor, children and adults, with all who wanted to know him. To me one of the saddest aspects of the Garden of Eden was that Adam and Eve lost fellowship with God as he walked in the garden in the cool of the day (Gen. 3:8). But Jesus' atoning death makes that fellowship possible again to those who accept his gift of

Living in the light (1: 5-7). Absolute darkness is scary. Little children may ask for a night light. Adults may think we like darkness, but what we like is the contrast of light against darkness — the stars and moon, the welcoming lights of home. John writes that God is light (1:5). He is perfect light with not even a hint of darkness. Our lives should be pinpoints of light contrasting with the darkness of sin. Walking in God's light assures us of fellowship with him and with other believers

Confessing sins (1:8-10). False teachers were claiming to be without sin. By making such claims, they were deceiving themselves. Paul writes in Romans 3:23, "All have sinned...." But John assures his readers that forgiveness of our sins is offered by our faithful and just Lord. The action that is necessary on our part is confession and repentance. Claiming to be sinless makes God a liar, a thought too terrible to be contemplated!

Accepting Christ's redemptive work (2:1-2). Christians should not continue in sinful lifestyles. When we do sin, Jesus is there as our Advocate, the One who speaks in our defense to the Father. How comforting to have as our Advocate one like Jesus! The writer of Hebrews writes, "We do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet was without sin." (4:15) Jesus has paid the price. He is the propitiation — the atoning sacrifice — for our sins. Not only did he die for our sins; he died for the sins of all who trust in him.

Keeping Christ's commandments (2:3-5). How can we know that we know the Lord? John says it is simple: obey him. He repeats Jesus' words which are recorded in John 14:15: "If you love me, you will obey what I command." Are our lifestyles — yours and mine — characterized by obedience to God's commands? If they are, then God's love is perfected, or made complete, in us. We need to heed John's words in verse 6: "Whoever claims to live in him must walk as Jesus did." Jesus' life was lived in complete obedience to his Father.

Loving fellow believers (2:9-11). Love and hate are action words. In 1 John 1:5-7 John writes that God is light. In 2:9 he says that some claim to be in the light yet they hate their brothers. John goes on to say that the one who loves his brother is living in the light. How is our love life? Are there fellow church members whom we shun or gossip about, perhaps even hate? Such actions can cause us to stumble on our Christian walk. John calls his readers "dear children" in this letter. But children need to grow up to become mature adults. All of us need to let God's love flow to us to those around us, especially to fellow believers.

Merritt is a member of First Church, Jackson.

Life and Work

The ministry of prayer



By Mark A. Rathel James 5:12-20

James is the most practical book in the New Testament. James does not deal extensively with doctrinal issues in his short letter. Rather, James focuses on the relation of faith and life. He concludes his epistle with a challenge for believers to deepen their prayer experience. In doing so, James reminds churches that nothing is more practical than

Oaths are dangerous (v. 12). Many biblical scholars fail to note a connection between verse 12 and the preceding section. The phrase "but above all" provides a strong connection, however. The Christians James addressed needed patience and endurance similar to Job in the light of suffering and persecution. Perhaps one form of persecution suffered was a malicious maligning of the character and integrity of some individuals. The attacked individuals perhaps responded with oaths as to the truthfulness of public statements. James commands Christians to stop defending the truth with oaths. Simple speech is enough defense.

Prayer is the proper response to life (v. 13). James asks two questions to emphasize the necessity of prayer in any circumstance. On any given day, some church members are suffering and some are cheerful. The terms "suffering" and "cheerful" describe inner attitudes or emotions. Suffering here probably emphasizes the internal distress a believer may feel in response to external circumstances. The proper response to either suffering or cheerfulness is prayer. We often turn to God in difficult days and neglect God on sunny days. For James, singing is a form of prayer.

As you worship Sunday, sing with an attitude of prayer.

Prayer for the sick (vv. 14-15). Individuals with health problems comprise the longest section of the prayer lists in most churches. Certainly, an emphasis on prayer for the sick is biblical. The situation described in these verses is that of an individual with a life-threatening illness. To "pray over" an individual implies that the person is confined to bed. The initiative in prayer ministry begins with the sick person informing the church of his/her need and requesting the elders to come. In the New Testament church, ministry was shared by a plurality of ministers. Elders refers to the pastoral ministry team: pastor, staff, and deacons. The Greek word translated "anoint" is not the term used elsewhere in the Bible for ritual anointing or application; hence, anointing with oil does not have a religious connotation. Oil commonly was used for medicinal purposes throughout the ancient world. The Bible instructs sick believers, therefore, to combine prayer with available

Prayer is mutually beneficial (v. 16a). Christians are commanded to confess to one another. Indeed, "one another" limits the extent of confession to two believers. Nowhere are Christians commanded to air dirty laundry. The subject matter of the confession is sins against another brother/sister: hard feelings, evil actions, and mean words. Sincere confession prepares for reconciliation and a renewal of relationship. Confession is to be combined with prayer, the highest form of love. The purpose of mutual confession and prayer is healing. Christians actually make themselves sick physically because they refuse to be reconciled. Healing may also refer to spiritual revival. During the Shanghai revival in China, God moved in powerful ways after Southern Baptist missionaries mutually confessed and

Prayer is not for super-saints (vv. 16b-18). Elijah was a man, not a super-saint. Earnestness was the key to the prayer effectiveness of Elijah. Earnestness is a lacking quality in the prayers of most Christians. Perhaps our prayers go unanswered because we do not care much about them in the first place. Desperate times motivated the earnest quality of Elijah's prayer. It seemed as if the whole people of Good followed Baal, the rain-god. Elijah attacked the heart of all worship by praying for God to withhold

Restoration is prayer ministry (vv. 19-20). Restoring Christians who have wandered from the truth is important. Such a delicate ministry should be approached only after much prayer. The results of restoring wandering Christians

Rathel is pastor, Bay Vista Church, Biloxi.

capsules



CLEAR-TV ENDS JOHNSON WAX BOYCOTT: WHEATON - Christian Leaders for Responsible Television (CLeaR-TV) announced that it is lifting a nationwide boycott of S.C. Johnson & Son, Inc., a Racine, Wisc., based corporation that markets a variety of waxes, polishes, household, and personal products. The decision to lift the boycott was made following a meeting with officials of the S.C. Johnson Company on June 18, which resulted in a revision of the company's advertising policy and the addition of specific steps to bring more direct supervision to their television program screening procedures. In a letter dated July 9, the S.C. Johnson Company advised CLeaR-TV, "We feel your suggestions regarding our advertising policy have improved it. We have clarified it and incorporated more direct language... In addition, we have investigated our screening process. We have found some areas in our process that deserve more direct supervision." The company went on to say that they had taken steps to "insure accurate implementation." The boycott had been called March 15, after the company failed to respond to the concerns of CLeaR-TV regarding the company's sponsorship of programs with excessive and gratuitous sex, violence, and profanity during the fall 1992 monitoring period.

GOLDEN GATE RECEIVES LARGEST ENDOWMENT GIFT: MILL VALLEY, Calif. (BP) — Golden Gate Seminary has received a \$1.6 million gift from William and Patricia Dixon of California to endow the seminary's church music program. The endowment is the largest single gift in the 49-year history of the seminary, based in Mill Valley, Calif. "The Dixons help lay a lasting foundation for ministry in the West," said William O. Crews, Golden Gate's president. "Their commitment strengthens our efforts to train Christian leaders with ministry skills relevant to the 21st century."

FORMER STATE BAPTIST PRESIDENT ELECTED ARKANSAS LT. GOVERNOR: LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (BP) — Mike Huckabee, former president of the Arkansas Baptist Convention, is Arkansas' new lieutenant governor. Huckabee, in fact, became the state's acting governor the night of his Aug. 3 inauguration when Gov. Jim Guy Tucker was hospitalized in the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn. Huckabee gained a narrow victory over Democratic candidate Nate Coulter in a July 27 special election called after Tucker moved from lieutenant governor to governor following Bill Clinton's presidential election. Huckabee, who served as the state Baptist convention's president from 1989-91, resigned last year as pastor of Beech Street First Church in Texarkana, for a run, ultimately unsuccessful, against U.S. Sen. Dale Bumpers.

SOUTHWESTERN SEMINARY TO BEGIN 86TH YEAR OF CLASSES: FORT WORTH, Texas — Southwestern Seminary will begin its 86th year when classes open Aug. 30. Nearly 4,000 students are expected to enroll at Southwestern during the 1993-94 school year, making the seminary the largest theological school in the world. Orientation for all new students is scheduled for Aug. 25-26 and fall registra-tion is Aug. 24-27. The seminary has 106 full-time faculty members and 82 supplemental instructors. Russell Dilday enters his 16th year as

LONGTIME BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD EMPLOYEE COLSON DIES: DARLINGTON, S.C. (BP) — Howard Colson, 84, retired editorial secretary for the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, died Aug. 12 in a Darlington, S.C., nursing home after a lengthy illness. Colson joined the Sunday School Board in 1949 as editorial associate. Later he served as editor in chief of Sunday School lesson courses, director of editorial services, and editorial services staff consultant. From 1969 until his retirement in 1975, Colson was editorial secretary for the church services and materials division. He is survived by his wife, Mary, who resides in Bethea Nursing Home in Darlington; and three children.

Bibliocipher

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NRGI PI PF:SXFPSK-STGFF

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: First John Three:Eighteen.

Stuttering doesn't have to cause back-to-school woes

begin to stutter, the immediate reaction is one of concern mixed with a host of urgent questions.

Should they call on him in class or will that only make the stutter-

ing worse? How should they handle teasing by other children? What should they do about reading aloud?

The non-prof-Stuttering Foundation of America answers these and many other questions in its brochure, "The Child Who Stutters School: Notes to the Teacher." The brochure was written by Dean E. Williams of the University of Iowa, a leading speechlanguage pathol-ogist who specializes in stut-

"Young children are busily learning to talk,' explains

Williams, "and, as such, they may make speech 'mistakes,' such as effortless repetitions and prolonging of sounds. In most instances,"

When teachers hear a child he adds, "this is very normal. If parents and teachers listen to and answer these young children in a patient, calm, unemotional way, the child's speech will probably return to normal."

"They may begin to struggle, tense, and become frustrated in their efforts to talk. These children need help.

'Any time teachers are concerned about a child's fluency,'

notes Jane Fraser, president of the Stuttering Foundation, "they should consult with the school speech clinician as well as the parents to make sure their approach to the child's speech is consistent." She advises teachers, "Talk with the child privately and reassure him of your support; let the child know that vou are aware of his stuttering and that you accept it - and

For more answers to questions about stuttering and a free copy of "The Child Who Stutters at School:

Notes to the Teachers," write the Stuttering Foundation of America, repeat and prolong sounds P.O. Box 11749, Memphis, TN markedly," explains Williams. 38111, or call 1-800-992-9392.

Did You Know...?

Over three million Americans stutter.

Stuttering affects four times as many males as females.

· People who stutter are as intelligent and well-adjusted as non-stut-· Despite decades of research, there are no clear-cut answers to the

causes of stuttering, but much has been learned about factors which contribute to its development.

· As a result tremendous progress has been made in the prevention of stuttering in young children.

· People who stutter are self-conscious about their stuttering and often let the disability determine the vocations they choose.

· There are no instant miracle cures for stuttering. Therapy is not an overnight process.

· Some 25% of all children go through a stage of development during which they stutter. Some 4% may stutter for six months or more.

· Stuttering becomes an increasingly formidable problem in the teen years as dating and social interaction begin.

· A qualified clinician can help not only children but also teenagers young adults, and even older adults make significant progress toward fluency.

· Winston Churchill, Marilyn Monroe, Carly Simon, James Earl Jones, Ken Venturi, Bob Love, John Updike, Lewis Carroll, and King George VI — all stuttered and went on to have successful lives.

"Some children, however, will

go beyond the normal and begin to

While taxes go up, NEA wastes money —

Scandal proves NEA has no control over money, is fleecing taxpayers

FOREST, Va. — Christian Action Network (CAN) President Martin Mawyer is labeling the breaking scandal involving the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) the latest proof that the agency is wasting taxpayers' money and should get the budget cutting axe. Published reports have now confirmed that NEAfunded artists are giving their grant money away to illegal immigrants in Southern California and trying to call it an art project.

Congress needs to do something about this right now. Now we've reached the point where the NEA is literally throwing money away, money provided by hard working American taxpayers. This NEA Rebategate scandal should be the last straw," Mawyer

It was CAN which recently put on an "art exhibit" of work done by NEA-funded artists that set new lows in obscenity and repulsion. Photographs of work done by Joel-Peter Witkin (who has received four NEA grants in the last several years), including one called "Testicle Stretch With The Possibility of a Crushed Face,"

were shown in the office of Congressman Phil Crane in early August. Earlier, CAN tried to show the photos at the U.S. Capitol but was twice shut down on orders first from House Ways and Means Chairman Dan Rostenkowski and then Speaker Tom

Foley.
"The NEA has proven time and "The NEA has proven time and it's again that it has no idea what it's funding whether it's offensive photographs or obscene museum exhibits or money giveaways along the Mexican border. According to the NEA, anything is 'art' as long as someone calling himself an 'artist' is doing it,' Mawyer said.

Mawyer pointed out that if Congress is truly serious about deficit reduction and cutting waste out of the government, it couldn't find a more wasteful agency than the NEA.

"I find it appalling, as most Americans will, that Congress is raising taxes at the same time the NEA is throwing taxpayer's money away. We've gone from the obscene and offensive to the mindlessly absurd. Congress needs to get the government cut

of the arts business once and for all and now is the time," Mawyer

The Christian Action Network is a national lobby based in Forest, Va. For more information, call (703) 683-5004.

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